

B<sup>1</sup>  
Cont formamide, 5x SSC, and 1% SDS and washed at 65°C in a solution comprising 0.2x SSC and 0.1% SDS, to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

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B<sup>2</sup>  
6. (Once amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid is amplified by primers that selectively hybridize under stringent hybridization conditions, wherein the hybridization reaction is incubated at 42°C in a solution comprising 50% formamide, 5x SSC, and 1% SDS and washed at 65°C in a solution comprising 0.2x SSC and 0.1% SDS; to a nucleotide sequence, wherein the nucleotide sequence also hybridizes under stringent conditions to degenerate primer sets encoding amino acid sequences selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:3 (MLGQQQQ) and SEQ ID NO:4 (KKDRRSR).

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B<sup>3</sup>  
9. (Once amended) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid selectively hybridizes under moderately stringent hybridization conditions, wherein the hybridization reaction is incubated at 37°C in a solution comprising 40% formamide, 1 M NaCl, and 1% SDS and washed at 45°C in a solution comprising 1x SSC, to a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

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REMARKS

With this amendment, claims 1-9, 20 and 21 are pending in the present application and are currently under examination. Claims 10-19 and 22-57 are currently withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to non-elected inventions and have been canceled without prejudice to subsequent revival. Claims 2 and 8 are also canceled without prejudice to subsequent revival. For convenience, the Examiner's rejections are addressed in the order presented in the December 18, 2001 Office Action. Appendix A provides the version with markings to show changes made. Also for the Examiner's convenience, Appendix B is included listing all pending and amended claims currently under examination.